

RESOLUTION 35 - 2010

Supporting the prohibition of the use of mobile phones by certain drivers, as proposed by H.B. 67 and 2070 and encouraging the State legislators to enact this responsible legislation that supports and protects public safety

WHEREAS, mobile telephone usage has continued to increase in popularity in the United States. Studies show:

- Mobile phone usage while driving increases the likelihood of a crash fourfold;
- Drivers operating motor vehicles while using a mobile phone are as impaired as drivers with a 0.08 percent blood alcohol level – the level that defines drunk driving in most states;
- The act of dialing a mobile phone is the most dangerous part of making a mobile phone call while operating a motor vehicle;
- The cost of crashes caused by mobile phone usage while operating a motor vehicle is estimated a \$43 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, text messaging, instant messaging, web browsing, and other mobile telephone technologies are becoming increasingly popular and present an additional danger to motor vehicle operators. Studies show:

- The use of text messages has increased over 1,000 percent from June 2005 to June 2007;
- Today, Americans send and receive more text messages per month than phone calls;
- The use of mobile telephones while operating a motor vehicle, skateboard, inline skates or bicycle poses a great risk to the health, safety and welfare of the operator of those vehicles, as well as pedestrians;
- Requiring the use of hands free devices for mobile phones while operating a vehicle within the City of Reading is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Reading; and

WHEREAS, the use of mobile devices greatly impacts on the public health and safety of the citizens of Pennsylvania and due to the myriad of jurisdictional boundary lines on local roadways enforcement of local bans would be problematic; and

WHEREAS, California, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and Washington have enacted legislation that completely bans cell phone use and other States such as Arkansas, Arizona, Georgia, Hawaii have partial bans in place; and

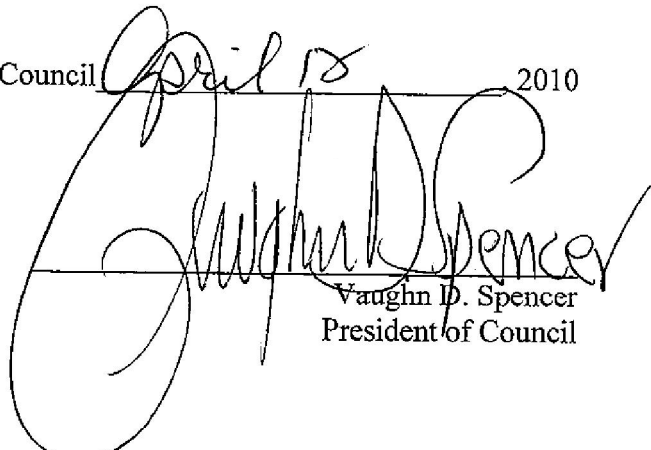
WHEREAS, as this issue affects every person in Pennsylvania; we implore the State Legislators to enact responsible State legislation that will protect the health and welfare of all driving on Pennsylvania roadways.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING

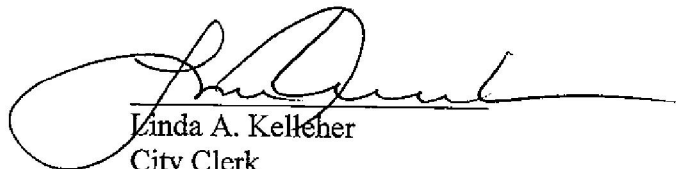
That Council hereby expresses its support of the prohibition of the use of mobile phones by certain drivers, as proposed by H.B. 67 and 2010, and urges Pennsylvania Legislators to enact responsible legislation that will be easily enforceable for all law enforcement agencies and protect public the welfare and safety of all people driving on Pennsylvania roadways.

Adopted by Council

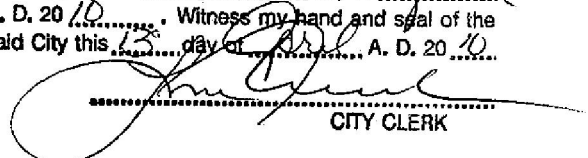
2010


Vaughn D. Spencer
President of Council

Attest:


Linda A. Kelleher
City Clerk

I, LINDA A. KELLEHER, City Clerk of the City of Reading, Pa., do hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original passed by the Council of the City of Reading, on the day of A. D. 20 .. . Witness my hand and seal of the said City this day of A. D. 20 .. .


CITY CLERK